AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-5 (canceled).

6. (currently amended): A wireless communication apparatus for transmitting and receiving data wirelessly with a counterpart wireless communication apparatus in an ad hoc network, comprising:

a transmitting portion arranged for transmitting data to the counterpart wireless communication apparatus through a plurality of frequency channels; and

a controller arranged to obtain a number of transmittable frequency channels of the counterpart wireless communication apparatus that the wireless communication apparatus intends to communicate with, by transmitting data to the counterpart wireless communication apparatus through a plurality of frequency channels and determining whether the counterpart wireless communication apparatus receives the data in the respective channels, and the controller arranged to transmit the data through the transmitting portion to the counterpart wireless communication apparatus according to the obtained number of transmittable frequency channels~~A wireless communication apparatus for transmitting and receiving data wirelessly, comprising: a transmitting portion for transmitting the data through a plurality of frequency channels; and a controller for dividing the data for transmission by a number of frequency channels, and processing to transmit the data to a counterpart wireless communication apparatus that the wireless communication apparatus intends to communicate with,~~

~~wherein, when the counterpart wireless communication apparatus receives the data through one channel, the controller transmits the data through a basic channel~~.

7. (currently amended): The wireless communication apparatus of claim 6, wherein the plurality of frequency channels include ~~the~~ a basic channel for supporting a communication with other wireless communication apparatuses having a single channel, and a plurality of additional channels consecutively or inconsecutively positioned with respect to the basic channel.

8. (original) The wireless communication apparatus of claim 7, wherein, while transmitting the data in parallel, the controller applies a frequency hopping pattern to the plurality of additional channels, corresponding to a frequency hopping pattern applied to the basic channel.

9. (original) The wireless communication apparatus of claim 6, wherein, when the data for transmission is real time data, the controller grades the real time data, and transmits essential data of a basic grade for utilization of the real time data through the basic channel, and transmits the data of other grades through the plurality of additional channels.

Claims 10-16 (canceled).

17. (currently amended): A method of a wireless communication apparatus for transmitting and receiving data wirelessly, comprising:

the step of dividing the data for transmission by a number of a plurality of frequency channels, and transmitting the data to a counterpart wireless communication apparatus that the wireless communication apparatus intends to communicate with,

wherein, when the counterpart wireless communication apparatus receives the data only through one frequency channel, the data is transmitted through a basic channel.

said method further comprising the steps of: obtaining a number of transmittable frequency channels of a counterpart wireless communication apparatus that the wireless communication apparatus intends to communicate with, by checking whether the counterpart wireless communication apparatus receives the data in the respective channels; and processing to transmit the data according to the transmittable frequency channels to the counterpart wireless communication apparatus.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the plurality of frequency channels comprise a basic channel for supporting a communication with other wireless communication apparatuses having a single channel, and a plurality of additional channels consecutively or inconsecutively positioned with respect to the basic channel.

19. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein, when the data is transmitted in parallel, a frequency hopping pattern is applied to the plurality of additional channels, corresponding to a frequency hopping pattern applied to the basic channel.

20. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein, when the data for transmission is real time data, the data is graded into respective grades, and essential data of a basic grade for utilization of the real time data is transmitted through the basic channel, and the data of other grades is transmitted through the plurality of additional channels.

Claims 21-23 (canceled).

24. (currently amended): A wireless communication system comprising a plurality of wireless communication apparatuses operated as a master or a slave, wherein the wireless communication apparatus operated as the master divides data for transmission by a number of a plurality of frequency channels, obtains a number of transmittable frequency channels of a

counterpart wireless communication apparatus by transmitting data to the counterpart wireless communication apparatus through the plurality of frequency channels and checking whether the counterpart wireless communication apparatus receives the data in the respective channels, and transmits the data to a wireless communication apparatus operated as the slave~~,~~

~~wherein, when the wireless communication apparatus operated as the slave receives the data only through one frequency channel, the data is transmitted through a basic channel~~.